AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Previously canceled).

2. (Canceled)

3-6. (Previously canceled).

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) A method of manipulating a 3D image using a peripheral device connected to a display monitor and processor, said peripheral device including a gripping device, comprising the steps of:

displaying a 3D image on said display monitor,

detecting forces and/or displacements, upon said gripping device by the user, wherein said gripping device including forming sensors, said forming sensors detecting movement in six degrees of freedom, said six degrees of freedom including a first operating mode of x, y and z parameters forming translation components for translating or zooming the 3D image and a second operating mode of A, B and C parameters forming rotation components for rotating the 3D image,

generating command information from said gripping device of said peripheral device to said processor based upon said forces and/or displacements, and thus

manipulating the 3D images using only one of either of said first operating mode or said second operating mode~~The method as claimed in claim 30~~,

wherein a comparison is used on the combined components to identify components that are negligible or small relative to the other components and as a result of the comparison the component(s) thus identified are replaced by a zero component.

9. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein a combined component is replaced by a zero component when the component is less than a given ratio of at least one other component.

10. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein a combined component is replaced by a zero component when the component is less than a given ratio of at least one other component.

11. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein a combined component is replaced by a zero component when the component is less than half of at least one other component.

12. (Currently amended) A method of manipulating a 3D image using a peripheral device connected to a display monitor and processor, said peripheral device including a gripping device, comprising the steps of:

displaying a 3D image on said display monitor,

detecting forces and/or displacements, upon said gripping device by the user, wherein said gripping device including forming sensors, said forming sensors detecting movement in six degrees of freedom, said six degrees of freedom including a first operating mode of x, y and z parameters forming translation components for translating or zooming the 3D image and a second operating mode of A, B and C parameters forming rotation components for rotating the 3D image,

generating command information from said gripping device of said peripheral device to said processor based upon said forces and/or displacements, and thus

manipulating the 3D images using only one of either of said first operating mode or said second operating mode~~The method as claimed in claim 30~~,

wherein a combined component is replaced by a zero component when the component is less than half of at least one other component.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of manipulating a 3D image using a peripheral device connected to a display monitor and processor, said peripheral device including a gripping device, comprising the steps of:

displaying a 3D image on said display monitor,

detecting forces and/or displacements, upon said gripping device by the user, wherein said gripping device including forming sensors, said forming sensors detecting movement in six degrees of freedom, said six degrees of freedom including a first operating mode of x, y and z parameters forming translation components for translating or zooming the 3D image and a second operating mode of A, B and C parameters forming rotation components for rotating the 3D image,

generating command information from said gripping device of said peripheral device to said processor based upon said forces and/or displacements, and thus

manipulating the 3D images using only one of either of said first operating mode or said second operating mode~~The method as claimed in claim 2~~,

filtering the command information for the rotation and/or translation components corresponding to micro-movements, wherein in the second operating mode, after filtering of the micro-movements, whether the zoom component is zero or not is detected and

when the zoom component is not zero, the other components are replaced by zero components.

14-29. (Previously canceled).

30. (Cancelled)